

**Procter & Gamble – Intellectual Property Division**

**IMPORTANT CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE**

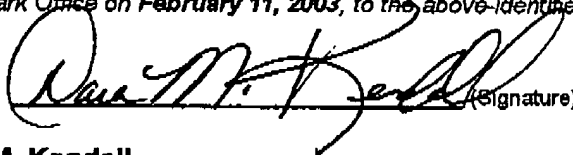
The documents accompanying this telecopy transmission contain confidential information belonging to the sender which is legally protected. The information is intended only for the use of the individual or entity named below. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying, distribution or the taking of any action in reliance on the contents of this telecopied information is strictly prohibited. If you have received this telecopy in error, please immediately notify us by telephone (collect) to arrange for return of the telecopied document to us.

**FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET &  
CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR §1.8**

**TO: Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Examiner: J. A. Webb  
Fax No. (703) 872-9302  
Phone No. (703) 308-8579**

**FAX RECEIVED  
FEB 11 2003  
GROUP 3700**

*I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on February 11, 2003, to the above-identified facsimile number.*

  
(Signature)

**FROM: Dara M. Kendall  
Fax No. (513) 626-3499  
Phone No. (513) 626-1789**

Listed below are the item(s) being submitted with this Certificate of Transmission:

- 1) Transmittal for Amendment/Response;
- 2) Amendment/Response (2 pages)

Number of Pages Including this Page: 4

Inventor(s): F. J. ROURKE ET AL.  
 S.N.: 09/529,575  
 Filed: April 14, 2000  
 Conf. No.: 9622  
 Case: 7024R

Comments:

To Whom It May Concern:

P&G Case 7024R

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of :  
 F. J. ROURKE ET AL. :  
 Serial No.: 09/529,575 : Group Art Unit: 3761  
 Confirmation No.: 9622 :  
 Filed: April 14, 2000 : Examiner: J. A. Webb  
 For: PROTEASE INHIBITORS IN :  
 ABSORBENT ARTICLES :

*V. Douglas*  
*#19 ID*  
*2/25/03*

AMENDMENT/RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is responsive to the Official Action mailed on January 24, 2002, which set a one-month period for response. Please consider the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the following claim as indicated.

DI

31. (Thrice Amended) An absorbent article at least a portion of which comprises a protease inhibitor, wherein the protease inhibitor comprises from about 0.001% to about 30% by weight of the article; the protease inhibitor has an IC<sub>50</sub> of about 500 μm or less, as measured by a General Fecal Protease Method; [the protease inhibitor has an IC<sub>50</sub> of about 500 μm or less, as measured by a General Fecal Protease Method;] and the protease inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of 4-(2-aminoethyl)-benzenesulfonylfluoride hydrochloride, hexamidine and its salts, pentamidine and its salts, and mixtures thereof.

REMARKS

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 31-33, 36, 41-53 shall remain pending. Applicants have amended Claim 31 to correct a typographical error submitted in the previous amendment mailed November 6, 2002. Support for this amendment may be found at page 29, lines 8-10 of the application. No new matter, however, has been added to the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

F. J. ROURKE ET AL.

By *Dara M. Kendall*  
 Dara M. Kendall  
 Applicants' Attorney  
 Registration No. 43,709  
 (513) 626-1789

February 11, 2003  
Customer No. 27752

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an AMENDMENT/RESPONSE for the patent application:

Inventor(s): F.J. ROURKE ET AL. Confirmation No. 9622

Serial No.: 09/529,575 Group Art Unit: 3761

Date Filed: April 14, 2000 Examiner: J. A. Webb

Title: PROTEASE INHIBITORS IN ABSORBENT ARTICLES

1.  No additional fee is known to be required.
2.  The fee has been calculated as shown below.

	(Col. 1)		(Col. 2)	(Col. 3)	OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY	
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA*	RATE	FEE
TOTAL	* 17	MINUS	** 20	= 0	x \$18 =	\$0
INDEP.	* 01	MINUS	*** 5	= 0	x \$84 =	\$0
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEP. CLAIM					+ \$280 =	\$0
					TOTAL	\$0

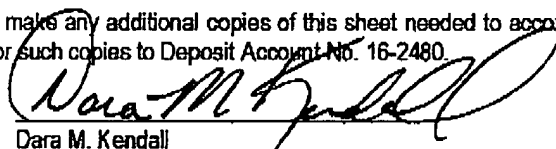
\* If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.

\*\* If the highest number of total claims previously paid for is less than 20, write "20" in this space.

\*\*\* If the highest number of independent claims previously paid for is less than 3, write "3" in this space.

The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found from the equivalent box in Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

3.  The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 16-2480. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.
  - a.  Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR §1.16.
  - b.  Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR §1.17.
4. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to make any additional copies of this sheet needed to accomplish the purposes provided for herein and to charge any fee for such copies to Deposit Account No. 16-2480.



Dara M. Kendall  
 Attorney for Applicants  
 Registration No. 43,709  
 Tel. No. (513) 626-1789

February 11, 2003

Customer No. 27752